

(d) Proposals are received to set up new Telephone Exchanges at Bauria, Bakshirhat, Kalyanpur, Shyampur and Udayanarayanpur in Uluberia Sub-division.

- (e)(1) The new exchange at Bauria is likely to be set up in 1997-98.
- (2) The new exchange at Bakshirhat is likely to be set up by 31.03.97.
- (3) For Kalyanpur, the plan is yet to be finalised.
- (4) At Shyampur, one C-Dot 128 port exchange has been installed already.
- (5) At Udayanarayanpur one C-DOT 256 port exchange has been installed already.

[Translation]

Container Service

931. SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of cities in the country where the container service has been provided;
- (b) whether the Government propose to provide this service in Jaipur; and
- (c) if so, the time by which the said services are likely to be introduced in Jaipur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Container service has been provided by Container Corporation of India Limited (CONCOR), a Public Sector Unit under Ministry of Railways in twenty three cities of the country.

(b) and (c) An Inland Container Depot (ICD) is already being operated by Rajasthan Small Industries Corporation (RAJSICO) at Sanganer in Jaipur.

[English]

Losses in SAIL

932. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV :
PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the SAIL incurred huge losses in giving unsecured credit and supplying materials to certain private parties without any letter of credit;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. According to SAIL, it grants unsecured credit as an accepted commercial practice based on certain parameters. Wherever there are delays, SAIL recovers the amount alongwith the applicable interest and, as such, SAIL is not incurring huge losses in such transactions.

INTERNET Current Account

933. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that foreign business travellers visiting India for a short duration find it difficult to open a temporary INTERNET current account from VSNL;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government propose to simplify the procedure to open INTERNET current account;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the monopoly of VSNL and its poor service is hurting the foreign investment; and
- (f) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) No, Sir. The existing procedure for opening INTERNET account is simple.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e) No, Sir. The INTERNET service is available through VSNL in 6 cities and DoT in 10 cities. The quality of INTERNET service in India compares well with international INTERNET service providers.

(f) Question does not arise in view of reply at (e) above.

Construction of Bridge at Palllady

934. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by the Government to ful-fill the long standing demand of the people to put up a bridge at Palllady near the level crossing and railway station along the existing footpath or 'Man' the level crossing in the Trivendrum-Kanniyakumari railway line; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Level crossing is not feasible at this site and no proposal for a Road Over Bridge has been sponsored by the State Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Introduction of Train between New Delhi and Moradabad

935. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a suggestion from Export Promotion Council of Handicrafts